

Top Stories of 2020

The Pandemic of 2020: How It Affected the Lives of Greenbelters

by Lesley Kash, Amy Hansen, Carol Griffith

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Life for Greenbelt residents, as for everybody else in the world, was significantly altered as we adjusted to life in the midst of a serious pandemic. We were sequestered at home, except for forays to the supermarket and other essential trips. Our children, instead of going to school every day, sat in front of a computer. Classmates and teachers also in front of their computer screens at their own homes. Socializing, except for people within your own bubble – a small group of people, usually relatives, who lived with or near you and maintained the same strict but necessary social distancing, mask-wearing, hand-washing practices – was put on hold in 2020. From religious services and observances to civic events, to concerts and festivals, including the Labor Day Festival and the December Festival of Lights, Greenbelters, who thrive on community events and involvement, were forced to keep to themselves.



Working from home became the norm for many Greenbelters during 2020.

Three Greenbelt residents share their experiences of how their everyday life was affected by the pandemic.

Time in Nature

Life in the pandemic is a time for a lot of walking and trying to find small joys. There are new-to-me vistas inside and outside the city that I've been visiting this year. When I find a peaceful place, even if it is still noisy with traffic, or cluttered with litter, I try to capture the space both with my camera and with my mind. Peace exists. My husband and I spent a lot of time on Seek, an

app produced by iNaturalist, for smart phones. We used it to identify plants, animals, fungi and algae. It was surprisingly addictive for several months. And while it did not get us to do any actual work, we did find ourselves outside walking around, competing with each other to find more and different things to look at.

Working from Home

Working from home is what

See PANDEMIC, page 8

Top Stories of 2020

In this week's paper, we present the top Greenbelt stories of 2020. We usually put those stories in a frame to set them off from the rest of the articles. This year, we are scattering them throughout the paper with the phrase Top Stories of 2020 above each one.

Top Stories of 2020

Pandemic Affects City Government

The actions taken in response to the pandemic had an immediate impact and potentially large future impacts upon city government. Many revenue sources such as income tax, recreation program fees, gas tax revenues, admissions and amusement tax, as well as red-light and speed camera fines were projected to decrease significantly. Meanwhile, the city faced increased expenditures for more frequent

and thorough cleaning, personal protective equipment for staff who must interact with the public, and equipment and software needed to support increased teleworking and virtual meetings and programming.

Starting with those for seniors, many city programs shut down in late March as City Manager Nicole Ard issued a citywide State of Emergency, while others, such as Greenbelt CARES coun-

seling, moved online, a process that continued throughout the spring and summer. Eventually, city staff exercised their creative muscles by developing a wide variety of virtual events, from recreation classes to the Easter Egg Hunt, summer camps and Festival of Lights. A limited number of in-person classes resumed in September.

See CITY, page 8

Top Stories of 2020

Co-op Had a Blockbuster Year

In a year of significant change for the Co-op Supermarket, it got new leadership, a new roof and a new solar array. Incoming Manager Dan Gillotte, joining the store to replace retiring 35-year Manager Bob Davis, was immediately plunged into Covid-19 realities. Following prompt implementation of curbside delivery, strong distancing measures and herculean efforts to keep the store stocked, shoppers responded with renewed and sustained interest. This additional traffic resulted in an approximately 19 percent sales boost starting in March and a profit for the Co-op this year after two back-to-back losses. Staff received pay increases to compensate for the Covid-19 risk.

The Co-op board also got a new look, with three rookies, Gettie Audain, Steve Bernheisel and Johanna Goderre, replacing long-serving members Linda Ivy, Barbara Ford and Donna Peterson to join one-year members

Kim Kash and Amy Drew. The new board goes forward with the steady presence of stalwarts President Bill Jones and Treasurer Joe Timer.

The Rays on the Roof project, started in early 2019 to address the failing roof system and escalating energy costs, saw

See CO-OP, page 8

What Goes On

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day: City Offices Closed

Monday, January 4

8 p.m. City Council Worksession: TBD (tentative)

All council meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

Top Stories of 2020

Black Lives Matter Vigils



Demonstrators in Roosevelt Center in July call for greater police accountability and increased services for those in need.

Greenbelt residents organized rallies, demonstrations and vigils in response to the May 25 death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. In the immediate aftermath, Mayor Colin Byrd and Police Chief Richard Bowers both issued statements. Byrd encouraged Greenbelters to consider how policing might be reformed in Greenbelt, and Bowers asked residents to work to keep the relationship between police and the community from eroding. Both Byrd and Bowers set up virtual meetings.

Greenbelt residents held a number of events in Roosevelt Center, Franklin Park and other places as well as marches along Greenbelt Road and Southway. A regular candlelight vigil, held on Saturday nights from June through October, first at the corner of Hanover and Ora Glen then in Franklin Park, was organized by LaWann Stribling. The vigils were part of the national discussion of community policing and justice for people of color. Two bake sales were held to raise

See BLM, page 6



The Greenbelt Citizens for Public Safety (GCPS) delivered treats to the Fire Department on Christmas Day. See story, page 12.

Letters to the Editor

Fair and Just Policing Act

I am writing this letter in retrospect of the year that has opened many sleeping eyes to the important cause of remedying injustices within our country. The breaking points came over the winter and spring months with the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd. These murders led to mass protests and demonstrations throughout the world and within our own country at levels that haven't been seen in many years. These protests led to changes within retail brands that influence pop culture, within corporations, as well as within various sports and entertainment groups.

Many celebrities, politicians and elected officials stood with the everyday people to request changes within our criminal justice system. Police Reform is the focus that many cities, counties and states are working towards. This moment calls for changes to various police protocols that can protect the everyday citizen and police officers in a more appropriate and equitable manner that truly reflects our constitution.

Our mayor, Colin Byrd, began calling for such reforms in June 2020, calling for transparency of the collective bargaining sessions between the police and the city, and reviewing, modifying or removing policies that tend to lead to death in police-citizen interactions such as no-knock warrants, which led to the tragic killing of Breonna Taylor while she was asleep in her bed. Even though tragic events like these haven't happened in Greenbelt, Mayor Byrd is being proactive in pushing for police reforms to keep tragic events like this from happening in an effort to save the lives of residents and police officers as we continue to keep Greenbelt's name positive nationally.

As a young Black American who has faced racial profiling in the past, I know firsthand the feeling of being seen as something you are not. Some of my fellow citizens cannot relate to my experience, and the experiences of many other people of color particularly Black Americans, and we have some residents casting disparaging remarks on why our city shouldn't have such police reforms. Mayor Byrd's Fair and Just Policing Act is legislation I will continue to support and hope that the rest of the City Council understands that these reforms are not a war on police, nor meant to disrespect the great men and women who bravely serve, but they are a fight for equal treatment and justice under the law for all.

We must not be distracted from the real issues and problems of unequal justice against people of color by implying reforms aren't valid and only serve to dishonor our law enforcement partners which is inaccurate. Many who claim that police reforms are some sort of political agenda, sound extremely similar to those who spoke against the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act, implying that the landmark legislation was just a political tool and not needed. During the summer of 2020, we saw the continuation of a movement for

true justice under the law. Also revealed during this time were the true feelings towards systematic racism in America by many of our neighbors. It is my hope and prayer that these thoughts and feelings change to Understanding and Support for police reforms. Benjamin Franklin once stated, "Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."

Ric Gordon

Doing Something

When I moved into Greenbelt, I had never seen a small town with so many co-ops and non-profits, so many volunteers doing so many things. One quickly discovers a spirit of "do something" which fills the town. I was quickly drawn in, becoming a part of the Greenbelt Community Foundation.

Now, as the incoming 2021 President of the Greenbelt Community Foundation, I am able to announce that the board has decided, with typical Greenbelt zeal, to "do something." In an unprecedented move, the board, led by president emerita Carol Shaw, unanimously voted to award \$10,000 in grant support to the City of Greenbelt for the Good Samaritan Fund, effective immediately.

This money has been awarded with the stipulation that at least 40 families with school-age children will receive funds to cover

utilities. Parents are managing more than ever and the threat of their children's education being threatened by economic insecurity is simply an unacceptable burden. Internet, heat, lights: these are real bills that real families cannot afford to pay right now. So, we are stepping in.

We cannot control a lot of what happens to us, although we try. Our jobs, our health, our relationships all are affected by circumstances beyond us. But we can control how we react, and how we look forward. On behalf of the board of the Greenbelt Community Foundation, I invite you to look with us. Look ahead to a brighter year ahead yes, but also look to your neighbors. Consider joining me to support the Foundation with your time, treasure or talents or simply do a random act of kindness for your neighbor. Together, let's do something.

Stephanie Calhoun
Greenbelt Community Foundation

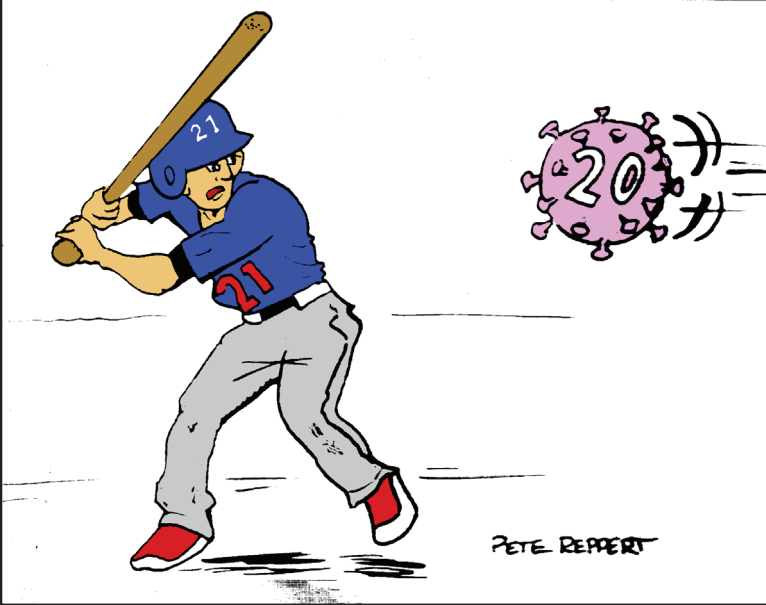
Kudos for News Review Advertising

Many thanks for all you did for us. The flyer for our Christmas concert looked wonderful. We had over 100 Zoom participants!

Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years!

Mowatt MUMC

2021: SWING FOR THE FENCES.



Drop us a Line!

Electronically, that is.

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

Letters Policy

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.



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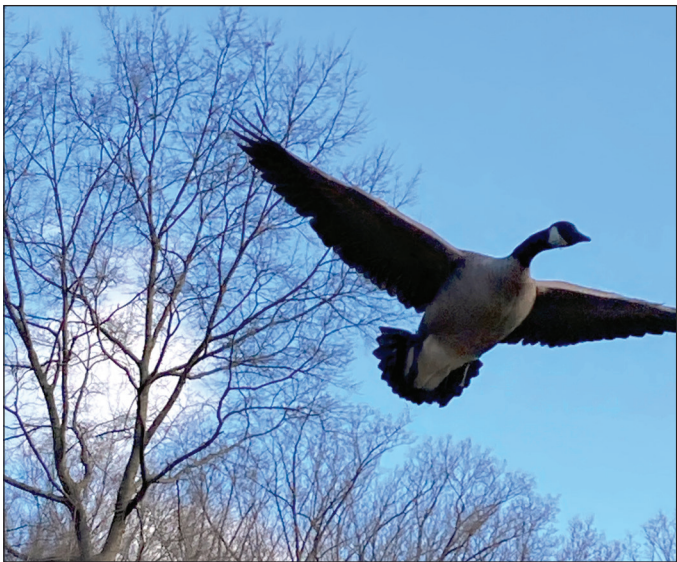
- Monday 2 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit), Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.

Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.



A Canada goose takes off from the Lake.



Joanne Kellaher stands with her nativity scene on Empire Place.

Community Events

Embroider a Bird For the New Year

Greenbelt Recreation instructor Leah Cohen will be leading a new embroidery workshop on Thursday, January 7 for ages 12 and up. Participants will create a felt Barnacle Goose. Patterns and materials are provided. Advance registration is required and fees apply. For more information, write to alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov.



PHOTO BY LEAH COHEN

Embroidered Barnacle Goose

GAC Auditions For Radio Plays

Greenbelt Arts Center will hold auditions over Zoom by appointment on Thursday and Saturday, January 7 and 9 for January's old-time radio plays. Audition slots can be arranged by emailing Director Rikki Howie Lacewell at the address listed on the website greenbeltartscenter.org.

In January the series will feature two five-minute mystery plays: My Pal Patsy and Death Calls at Dinner, as well as a Cat Wife – Lights Out, a strange and unusual story about a man whose wife is turned into a cat. There will be three virtual rehearsals and the final video will be posted on the website on January 25.

Although the actors will appear in the video, these are radio plays and casting will be done based on vocal sound and not age or appearance. All roles are open and everyone is encouraged to audition. More information and the recordings of the December radio plays are available at the website.

GAC Holds Auditions For a Zoom Play

On January 9 and 10, Greenbelt Arts Center will hold auditions for the play, Solomon and Marion by Laura Foot Newton, directed by Ann Lowe-Barrett. The auditions will be online via Zoom by appointment. To request an audition slot, email the director, including a resume at the address listed on the website greenbeltartscenter.org.

Solomon and Marion is the story of the unlikely friendship between Marion Banning, a white South African woman of English descent, and Solomon Xaba, a young Xhosa man. Marion is 63 years old, while Solomon is 19 and thin because of a liver disease.

Rehearsals will be virtual. The production will be recorded and streamed for audiences on February 27, 28 and March 6 and 7. The director will work with the cast on a convenient rehearsal schedule.

After-school Art Over Zoom

Greenbelt Recreation is offering pandemic-appropriate art classes on weekdays 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. over Zoom. On Mondays participants can join a puppet movie-making class (January 11 to February 8) and make their own painted horses (February 22 to March 1). On Wednesdays participants can work with polymer clay (January 13 to February 3) and draw like illustrators (February 10 to March 3). Participants can sign up for all sections, or choose one subject and medium. Advance registration is required and fees apply. For more information, go to greenbeltmd.gov/recreation and click on Winter Classes. After-school art classes are on pages 8 and 9 of the Winter Activity Guide.

GACPresentsOld-Time ChristmasRadioShows

Greenbelt Arts Center is starting a new monthly series of old-time radio shows from the 1940s and 1950s. Each month, one or more new shows will be presented on YouTube.

The Old-Time-Radio series starts this month with two programs. Suspense – 'Twas the Night Before Christmas tells the story of a girl waiting for her parents to come home on December 24. My Friend Irma – Irma Wants Extra Money for Christmas is another Christmas story.

The series is directed by Rikki Howie Lacewell and is presented in the Zoom format. In contrast to actual radio programs, the actors are visible in the video, and costumes and facial expressions add to the story. The sound effects are done in the traditional Foley manner with a collection of shoes and miniature doors.

The programs are available from the website greenbeltartscenter.org. It is free to watch the shows, but donations are accepted.

Arts Advisory Board

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, January 5, at 7 p.m. on Zoom. The primary focus of discussion will be goal-setting for 2021. For meeting access information, email ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-474-8000 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Toastmasters Meet Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining remotely at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.

CollaborativeListening To Build Relationships

The Prince George's Community Collaborative Resolution Center (PGCCRC) has partnered with the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy to help fulfill one of the city's goals of building a community that embraces diversity and fosters relationships across cultural and ethnic lines.

The four-part series, on successive Saturdays starting January 9 from 10 a.m. to noon, is called Collaborative Listening for Relationship Building.

All sessions are free and can be accessed through Eventbrite: eventbrite.com/e/collaborative-listening-for-relationship-building-tickets-130063903637?aff=ebdssbeac. Or simply go to eventbrite.com and search for Collaborative Listening. For more information email the PGCCRC at pgresolutioncenter@gmail.com.

Declutter to Feed Hungry Neighbors

Holiday home decluttering can help local food providers straining to feed neighbors hardest hit by this pandemic recession. It's definitely been a dumpster fire of a year, but rather than feed the dumpster, why not drop those unwanted belongings behind the Greenbelt Community Church on Saturday or Sunday, January 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Clothing and other soft goods should be packed together, preferably in white kitchen bags. Small household "hard goods," smaller than 12" x 18", should be combined and bagged as densely as possible.

These extra items no longer needed will add up to real money, with every penny going to local food kitchens and pantries: Help by Phone, Meals on Wheels, Greenbelt Good Samaritan Fund and Community Place Café. Folks with big hearts but no clutter are welcome to contribute, too, with checks payable to Greenbelt Community UCC; write Charity Drive for the Hungry in the memo line.

At the Library

Due to the surge in coronavirus cases, the Prince George's County Memorial Library System has temporarily suspended curbside service through Tuesday, January 12. The library buildings will be closed to staff during this period to ensure their and customers' safety. Book drops will also be closed, as there will be no staff in the building to process returned items. Curbside service is scheduled to resume on Wednesday, January 13.

The online library will still be available 24/7 with access to ebooks, audiobooks, online resources, virtual library card registration and account renewals. Customers may place hold requests for physical materials during the suspension period, but holds will not be processed until staff returns to the buildings.

Library staff will telework during the temporary suspension period, continuing to serve customers through the Ask a Librarian/Biblio Consulta service, the online library and social media. This service will operate with modified hours: Mondays through Fridays, 1 to 5 p.m. Customers may contact library staff at 240-455-5451 or askalibrarian@pgcmlls.info. Regular call center hours will resume on Tuesday, January 12 at 1 p.m.

The library parking lot will still serve as a hot spot for drive-up Wi-Fi during the closure.

Looking to Connect Across Greenbelt



Connecting Across Greenbelt (CAG) is a group of residents who gather virtually to build relationships across neighborhoods and to understand current challenges for all Greenbelters. To research ways to cope in these difficult times, the group is building a Caring and Connecting Toolkit in association with leading mental health and community health leaders (bit.ly/CAGtoolkit).

To find out about the group's monthly meetings in the New Year, Connecting Across Greenbelt: Community Conversations, email communityconnections@gb@gmail.com.



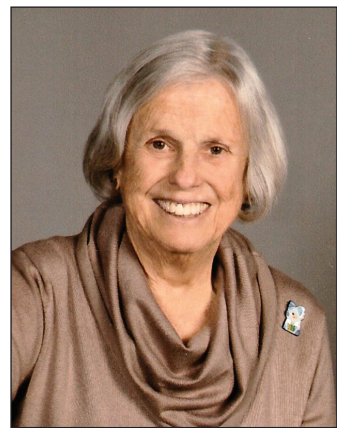
PHOTO BY DAMNA DILWORTH

A Kwanzaa table is set up to represent the seven principles of Kwanzaa. They are: 1. Umoja: Unity - To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race. 2. Kujichagulia: Self-Determination - To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves, and speak for ourselves. 3. Ujima: Collective Work and Responsibility - To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and solve them together. 4. Ujamaa: Cooperative Economics - To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other businesses and to profit from them together. 5. Nia: Purpose - To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness. 6. Kuumba: Creativity - To always do as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it. 7. Imani: Faith - To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

GATe GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION Friday January 1 - Thursday January 7		
PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		CONNECT WITH GATe ON  
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	Utopia Presents ★ Selected Short Films	• Suppressed: The Fight to Vote • Selected Short Films from Past Festivals
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
SAT/SUN	Member Spotlight	• GATe Community Producers
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Magnolia v Rogers Heights • Beacon Heights v Greenbelt
2 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
3 pm	Utopia Presents ★ Selected Short Films	• Suppressed: The Fight to Vote • Selected Short Films from Past Festivals
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Magnolia v Rogers Heights • Beacon Heights v Greenbelt
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8 pm	Utopia Presents ★ Selected Short Films	• Suppressed: The Fight to Vote • Selected Short Films from Past Festivals
10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
12 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77 STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream		

Obituaries

Elizabeth Roslewicz



Liz Roslewicz

Elizabeth Ann (Liz) Roslewicz died on December 17, 2020. She was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on October 17, 1941, to Thomas J. Rafferty and Ethel Mary Jones. Both of her parents immigrated from Leigh, Lancashire, England, and Liz was equally as proud of her English and Irish heritage as she was of her status as a first-generation American.

Liz was a force of nature! Her first job in the Washington, D.C., area was with the FBI where she was hired to type agents' travel records. One time she corrected the grammar in an agent's report only to be hauled in and told that she was "hired to work – not to think." She very quickly found another job where she could think and served as a legislative aide for Congressman Andrew Jacobs, Jr., of Indiana. She had many careers throughout her life – all with a focus on making the world a better and more equitable place for all.

She married Thomas D. Roslewicz in 1968 and had two children, Jason and Elizabeth. Liz took great delight in being a stay-at-home mom while her children were young. In 1975, she enrolled Jason in first grade at St. Thomas More Parochial School in Arlington, Va., where his teacher was Jackie Magness. It was the start of a 45-year friendship. When her children were older, Liz returned to college to earn a Bachelor of Individualized Studies from George Mason University. After her marriage ended in 1992, she moved in with Jackie, who had an extra room, and the two became inseparable. Liz convinced Jackie to continue their educations, with Liz earning the degrees of Master of Science in education with a major in adult and continuing

education and Doctor of Philosophy in adult learning and human resource development. After earning her Ph.D. at age 57, Liz ran a 21st Century grant at Highland View Elementary School focusing on uncovering and overcoming racism in schools and on helping low and non-performing students to excel. She and Jackie co-founded Light Works, Inc. a not-for-profit educational corporation designed to foster collaborative learning to facilitate change in individuals, teams and groups. They spent many years conducting Myers-Briggs assessments with I.T. students at George Mason University to help them learn the fine art of "people skills" to complement their technical knowledge.

Liz and Jackie moved to Greenbelt in 1999, where they quickly became involved in the community, serving on the city's Advisory Committee on Education, acting as election judges, attending mass with the Catholic Community, checking out copious amounts of books at the local library and walking all over the neighborhood. They enjoyed trips to the condo they co-owned in Rehoboth Beach and RV trips to Georgia and Florida each winter. Liz did much of the driving, while Jackie made lunch for them as they sped down the highway. Liz loved to travel, and the two logged many miles visiting national parks, enjoying a boat trip in England and traveling in Alaska for several weeks via the ferry system, car and small planes. Alaska spoke to Liz's sense of adventure and she longed to return.

Liz stopped giving her grandchildren birthday and holiday presents many years ago, preferring to give them experiences and the gift of time spent together. Over the years they took her five grandsons on a variety of

trips including an annual Cousins Camp in Rehoboth, watching Come From Away at the Kennedy Center and indoor sky-diving, which both Liz and Jackie opted out of trying! Liz's greatest joy in life was time spent with her children, their spouses and her grandchildren.

Over the years Liz faced many medical challenges which she met with a smile and determination. She was an avid researcher and would dive deeply into all the options for treatment, creating many spreadsheets full of information. After two successful hip replacement surgeries and the implant of both a pacemaker and a watchman, Liz liked to say that she was not sure whether to tell her children to have her cremated or recycled!

All who met Liz commented on her huge heart, her infectious smile and her wry sense of humor. She was the energy that filled the room and her laugh was memorable. Unfortunately, her kind, loving, joyful heart finally gave out on her. She had successful valve replacement surgery in early December, returning home on the 15th. Liz died very suddenly at home on December 17, with her best friend of 45 years by her side.

Liz is survived by her son Jason (Brenda) Roslewicz and daughter Elizabeth (Deryck) Cheney; grandsons Dylan, Levi and Ian Roslewicz and Kylan and Bryson Cheney; her cousin Don (Beth) Gantz; and a host of beloved friends and family members. She was predeceased by her parents and her brothers John and Thomas Rafferty.

A funeral mass was live streamed on Wednesday, December 30 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Arlington. Those who would like to remember Liz are advised that she loved supporting charities that

fed people or educated girls. The family asks that people channel some of Liz's caring nature and big heart by doing something kind for someone else or having a wee dram of Bailey's Irish Cream in celebration of a life truly well lived.

Deana Deakins James



Deana James

Deana Deakins James, 74, formerly of Greenbelt, died on Saturday, December 19, 2020, in Hixson, Tenn.

Deana was born and raised in Hixson. She obtained a bachelor's degree from the University of Chattanooga, and then received a master's degree in Spanish from the University of Georgia.

Deana and her husband George settled in Greenbelt to work and start their family, first on Ridge Road then moving to Laurel Hill Road. She worked

as a Spanish teacher and taught at the Greenbelt Co-op nursery school that her children attended. She was a dedicated volunteer who generously helped with her children's activities, from Cub Scouts to the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club and everything in between. Deana volunteered her time with the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee, holding various positions, including president. She was also a member of St. Hugh Catholic Church.

After 15 years, she and her family moved to Olathe, Kan., just outside of Kansas City. She taught Spanish at various schools in the area and proudly watched her two children graduate from college while there. In Kansas, Deana subscribed to the Greenbelt News Review so she could keep up with the happenings in Greenbelt.

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CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we
gather VIRTUALLY for
Liturgy of the Word
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now.
Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.
10 a.m. Sunday mornings



"A kindly tongue is the lodestone of the hearts of men. It is the bread of the spirit, it clotheth the words with meaning, it is the fountain of the light of wisdom and understanding." – Baha'u'llah



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Worship with us at
Greenbelt Baptist
Church

Biblical
Confessional
Reformed
Gospel Centered

Join us OUTSIDE Sundays
at 10:00am/Wednesdays
(online) at 7:00pm
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
Instagram/Facebook/Youtube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
301-474-4212
[@GreenbeltBaptist](https://www.instagram.com/GreenbeltBaptist)

Greenbelt Community Church



Whoever you are and wherever you
are on your Spiritual journey, you
are welcome HERE.

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171 Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson

Join Us on Facebook Live
Sunday at 10:15

Celebrating Epiphany
See, Be Radiant,
Rejoice!

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org



Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



January 3 10 a.m.
"Who Will Fill These Shoes?"

Worship Associates John Barr, Diana McFadden, Nori Myrdon-Ward, Polly Pettit and
Susannah Schiller

A retrospective on the honorable figures who passed in 2020.
ONLINE ONLY. Streaming information available at pbuuc.org/news/

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue
that respects tradition and becomes your extended family
in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
All services and activities are currently virtual
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism



Our condolences go to the friends and family of Liz Roslewicz who died December 17.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Deana James, who died on December 19 and will be remembered for her many volunteer activities as a Greenbelt resident in the 1970s and 1980s.

Congratulations to Joe McNeal of the Greenbelt Recreation Department on his retirement after 31 years with the city.

Kudos to Daniel Dorsey who received a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the Graduate School at Syracuse University, with a 4.0 average.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

City Notes

Joe McNeal of the Recreation Department retired, and will be missed after 31 years of service. Creative Kids Camp families received a musical holiday video for sharing camp memories. Youth Recreation's targeted emails encouraged registration for winter activities.

Animal Shelter residents are three cats, three dogs and a feral kitten being socialized. An animal cruelty investigation has led to police charges.

Street Maintenance/Special Details inspected streets for icy spots. Horticulture/Parks spread wood chips on the playground at Plateau and Ridge.

Refuse/Recycling collected 27.05 tons of refuse and 12.20 tons of recyclables. Building Maintenance repaired the heating at Springhill Lake Recreation Center and deep cleaned at the Aquatic & Fitness Center. Fleet Maintenance decommissioned two vehicles.

GAIL/CARES offered a holiday coat and toy distribution and Therapeutic Recreation's frozen meal delivery served 40 homebound seniors.

Park Rangers maintained Covid-19 precautions at Schrom Hills Park, replacing torn hazard tape at the Pavilion and monitoring a large soccer gathering.



Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web greenbeltnewsreview.com para ver artículos en español.



See our website, greenbeltnewsreview.com, for articles in Spanish.

Obituaries continued from page 4

In 2000, Deana and her now-retired husband moved back to Hixson, to the very house in which she was raised. Still wanting to make a difference in children's lives, she began teaching Spanish at Hixson Middle School. Señora James taught for another 12 years and retired in 2012. During that time, she saw her two children get married, one in Texas and one in Maryland. She also saw her family grow to include five grandchildren. She spent as much time as possible with them, despite the miles apart (she was even known to provide Spanish tutoring over the phone to a few grandchildren). Her annual Christmas letter was a welcome update on her family's doings over the past year.

Deana made life-long friendships wherever she lived and worked, especially in Greenbelt. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, George James; children, Andy (Patty Jo) James and Suzie (Kerry) Sweeney; grandchildren, Taylor James, Dylan James, Isabella Sweeney, Myles Sweeney, Finnegan Sweeney; and sister, Pat Burton (Clayton). Services will be held at a later date so that family and friends can come together to celebrate her life. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the ASPCA (aspc.org) or St. Jude Catholic Church in Hixson, stjudechattanooga.org.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 4-8

Monday, January 4 at 7:30pm, CLOSED SESSION (please see notice below)

Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00pm, PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, On the Agenda: Fair and Just Policing Presentation 2020

Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00pm, ARTS ADVISORY BOARD, On the Agenda: Goal-Setting for 2021

Wednesday, January 6 at 6:00pm, EMPLOYEE RELATIONS BOARD.

Wednesday, January 6 at 8:00pm, LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov.

SPECIAL MEETING - CLOSED SESSION

City Council Virtual Meeting will be held online Monday, January 4, 2021 at 7:30 PM*

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. virtually by Zoom to: 1) discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The purpose of this meeting will be: 1) City Manager Evaluation Process.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

*The public may attend the Special Meeting of the City Council immediately prior to the closed session and observe the vote of Council to move into closed session with the dial-in information provided below.

Resident Dial-in for observation: Join By Phone: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 844 3073 3749, Password: 729875

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

FREE TUTORING OFFERED BY GREENBELT CARES



Does your child need help with Math, Reading, Social Studies, or other School work?

Where: Online Lessons and Supportive Tutoring
When: WINTER 2021 (January 4- March 25)
Ages 6 – 18 (Must be Prince George's County Resident)
Contact us to Enroll: jhering@greenbeltmd.gov or 202-740-6473



GREENBELT CARES Do you want to earn your GED?

FREE GED Preparation Classes Online Lessons and Supportive Tutoring

WINTER 2021 (January 5 - March 25)
Ages 16 + (Must be Prince George's County Resident)
Contact: jhering@greenbeltmd.gov or 202-740-6473

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Community Relations Advisory Board
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- SCMAGLEV Opposition Task Force
- Youth Advisory Committee

For more information call 301- 474-8000

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY'S CHARITABLE FUNDS

Agency Funds are managed but not financed by the City. All donations to the funds are used for the listed charitable purposes. The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND: This fund provides financial assistance to Greenbelt residents facing food insecurity and financial difficulty in paying for utilities (Electric, Phone, Internet, Water and Gas).. This program receives funding from generous individuals, as well as Greenbelt faith communities and other civic associations. During the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Good Samaritan Fund is collecting monies to support the St. Hugh's Food Pantry and residents struggling to pay their utility bills

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND: Established to accept and disburse donations received to assist Greenbelt residents to pay rent to avoid possible eviction. Approximately a dozen individuals receive assistance from these funds each fiscal year.

GREENBELT RECREATION: Greenbelt Recreation receives contributions from various sources. The monetary donations are used to support camp scholarships, special events and other designated programs as specified by the donor. Monies are transferred to the General Fund to offset the program as appropriate.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION: Contributions are made to the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). These monies fund ACE initiatives such as its scholarship fund.

Now you may donate online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/donations.

You can also mail a money order or check to: City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt Road 20770. Please notate which fund in the notes section of the check. You may also use the drop box on the flag side of the building. Receipts will be provided and mailed out to you.



Greenbelt Recreation www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation 301-397-2200

Check out the Winter Activity Guide

Registration is ongoing Classes begin the week of January 4, 2021

Explore our Activity Guide for lots of options for all ages and interests. We offer seasonal special events and varied recreation facilities and classes to provide opportunities for community celebrations, a chance to learn something new or improve your skills in an activity you enjoy, all while socializing and staying active!

Please visit our Virtual Recreation Center www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation or give us a call at 301-397-2200



GREENBELT CARES Do you want to learn English? FREE (Gratis) ESOL Classes (virtual)

WINTER 2021 (January 4- March 25)
Adult class, ages 21+ (Must be Prince George's County Resident)
Contact jhering@greenbeltmd.gov or 202-740-6473

For city information, meetings, events, services and more visit www.greenbeltmd.gov Follow @cityofgreenbelt on Facebook and Twitter

Top Stories of 2020

Council, BLM and Policing

On the municipal level in Greenbelt, several engagements took place around Black Lives Matter themes of racial equity and justice, focusing on policing as elsewhere in the nation. Mayor Colin Byrd released an outline of a proposed Greenbelt Fair and Just Policing Act of 2020 via social media on June 11, to gather public feedback. At the June 22 council meeting, Byrd challenged the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) process between the city and Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), seeking to provide more transparency with a draft revised CBA for public review and to allow time for public feedback.

The same week, Byrd held a virtual Greenbelt community dialog on race relations and policing on June 27 to further engage the public on the opportunity to pass legislation seeking to further police reform in Greenbelt. The CBA was approved by council, five votes to two, after intense discussion at its July 13 meeting. Council said it would allow public comment on the 2021 CBA during the autumn months. Byrd presented the Greenbelt Fair and Just Policing Act of 2020 at the August 10 council meeting. Council directed the city solicitor to convert the slide presentation to a draft or-

dinance and referred this to the Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) and Public Safety Advisory Committee. Both boards held public meetings to review and gather feedback. Byrd also introduced a Racial Equity Resolution and Ordinance for first reading at the October 5 council meeting, modeled on a similar resolution and ordinance passed by the Bowie city council. These were referred to CRAB. In advance of the start of negotiations for the 2021 collective bargaining process between the city and FOP, council held an education worksession featuring a detailed presentation by attorney Stephen Silvestri.

BLM continued from page 1

money for Black Lives Matter (BLM) advocacy groups. In September, Greenbelt residents formed a group called Citizens for Public Safety to show support for the work of Greenbelt law enforcement. They conducted three demonstrations and found other ways, such as dropping off pizza at the police station, to show their support for Greenbelt’s law enforcement officials. On September 26, Greenbelt BLM leadership hosted an event

called Moechella 2020 in Franklin Park, which included a musical caravan, a concert and community discussion of BLM-related issues. The program featured more music along with local and area residents and leaders discussing four goals: promoting voter registration, reducing violence, building community solidarity and assisting rental families at risk of eviction from their homes. Approximately 350 people attended the event.

Daily demonstrations began in August outside the Municipal Building to educate Greenbelt about legislation participants believe will change the foundational laws that define and regulate policing and to make the public aware of existing laws that facilitate racist policies and practices.



Bridging Barriers in the Wake Of Black Lives Matter 2020

by Tom Adams and Lois Rosado

Connecting Across Greenbelt came together in 2020 out of the desire of a few neighbors to build bridges among the people and neighborhoods of Greenbelt. Tom Adams and his wife, who live in the Greenbelt Homes Inc. housing cooperative, moved here from Hyattsville seven years ago. They say that they love being able to walk every place, yet they were surprised how rarely they saw people of color in Roosevelt Center. After George Floyd’s murder and the vigil at Roosevelt Center, Adams and his wife along with several other Greenbelt residents, began holding weekly vigils supporting racial equity at Spellman overpass that spans the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. While reflecting with a neighbor on the separation between Greenbelt communities, a suggestion was made to talk with Lois Rosado. “Lois organizes the Black History Month celebrations in Greenbelt. She will have some ideas,” the neighbor suggested. Adams spoke with Rosado and they quickly agreed about how challenging it was to bring people from all of Greenbelt together. “There are so many barriers,” Rosado explained. “The highways and shopping centers are physical barriers. The history of Greenbelt excluding Blacks still limits and haunts Greenbelt. There are cultural and class differences, some own homes and others see Greenbelt as a bedroom community.” After several conversations, the two invited a dozen or so friends they knew to a Zoom meeting to explore interest in connecting Greenbelt communities. An

early suggestion was to host conversations on topics that build connections as well as events and social activities. That is how the group Connecting Across Greenbelt (CAG) was founded and such activities are what they have been doing for the last five months of 2020. CAG held a Drum Circle in Franklin Park, organized a scavenger hunt in collaboration with RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness), hosted a mental health conversation facilitated by Susan Taylor and recently, a conversation about festive foods, traditions and celebrations. The group has learned a great deal about the different neighborhoods of Greenbelt, their cultures,

and how residents view the different neighborhoods. Adams suggests that perhaps now is the time to think about how to help various neighbors to ensure that the city’s resources are shared equitably to assist all Greenbelt residents during these difficult times. Connecting Across Greenbelt invites all Greenbelt residents to join CAG by contacting the group at communityconnections.gb@gmail.com.

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

Happy Holidays

THE GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW, OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EDITOR, AND STAFF WISH YOU A PEACEFUL AND JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON. LET PEACE AND HOPE REMAIN IN YOUR HEARTS AS YOU BEGIN A NEW YEAR. WITH MANY THANKS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A JOYOUS NEW YEAR!

Top Stories of 2020

Maglev Continues To Be Promoted

Among the ups and downs of 2020, the Northeast Maglev development company almost found a way to push their Baltimore-Washington high-speed train system unnoticed past distracted Greenbelt residents. In November, the Greenbelt City Council approved hiring the environmental law firm Jill Grant and Associates (JG&A) to help review maglev’s Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which is scheduled to be released in January 2021. The city’s SCMaglev Opposition Taskforce has two members, who met for the first time on December 18. Those interested in joining can email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. Greenbelt’s neighbor, Goddard Space Flight Center, has submitted its opposition to a maglev train yard proposed to be built on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

The Maryland General Assembly will have at least two maglev bills on its docket. The Prince George’s County Stop the maglev Act of 2021 (PG-406-21) prohibits the construction of the maglev within two miles of protected property, such as federal land, a national park or a forest preserve. It needs a matching bill in the state Senate. Delegate Nicole Williams and Senator Paul Pinsky plan to re-introduce a bill that prohibits appropriations for maglev by the state of Maryland. A local group, Maryland Coalition for Responsible Transit, has applied for nonprofit status in order to raise funds to support the maglev no-build commenting effort. Their board represents a broad segment of neighborhoods along the proposed routes from Bladensburg-Port Towns in Prince George’s County to Linthicum-Shipley in Anne Arundel County.

Top Stories of 2020

Goddard Master Plan Revealed

The NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) shared the status of its Preferred Master Plan for various building and campus refurbishing projects that it wishes to accomplish over the next 20 years. GSFC officials also divulged that the focus of the current master plan is to improve engineering facilities rather than address science and flight projects and programs (the focus of the last plan). The new Master Plan upgrades some existing buildings, creates some new facilities, razes others and divests facilities and property which cannot be cost-effectively retrofitted. It also transforms some parking lot and former building areas to porous surfaces to control runoff.

It was noted that though NASA budgets for exploration and missions are expected to increase, funding for infrastructure would likely be tight and that, typically, only about one-third of the master plan will see fruition. GSFC officials said that though moving the fence line back from Greenbelt Road would be desirable to the facility, there was no intention to develop the strip between the fence and the road. Within the campus perimeter, the Master Plan allows other federal agencies or university affiliates desiring proximity to GSFC for research and collaboration to potentially establish a presence in designated areas.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

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* APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Offer valid November 1 - December 31, 2020. Credit Union reserves the right to terminate or amend this offer at any time without notice. All loans are subject to credit approval. Rates may vary as it is determined by an evaluation of credit, amount, term and other factors. Payment example: New holiday loan of \$5,000 for 12 months at 5.00% APR will have a monthly payment of \$428. Equal Opportunity Lender.

Top Stories of 2020

Mask Makers Flatten Curves

As the pandemic ramped up in March, a small group – spurred by former Greenbelters Sarah Liska and Jenny Meetre – began making masks for local hospitals and institutions as well as for distribution to the community. Masks were free, donations requested. The group swelled to approximately 25 mask makers plus those providing logistics, distributing masks, purchasing and readying fabric and organizing money and resources. The estimated 10,000 masks produced may well have saved some lives. The mask makers also supported mask distribution to Greenbelt Lake visitors by Greenbelt Police and park rangers. In a year of racial strife and tension, this served to diffuse otherwise potentially explosive interactions at the Lake. Some names stand out. Captain Gordon Pracht of the police department instigated masks at the Lake, Eric Case’s

donation provided fabric and Sylvia Hester sewed almost all of the 3,500 masks. Masks went to the community via the Farmers Market and to local hospitals, institutions and community-oriented services. Recipients included children’s organizations, Prince George’s Hospital, Children’s Hospital, Doctor’s Hospital’s community services, group homes, Green Ridge House and many others. Kudos to John Campanile and Lola Skolnik for numerous deliveries. Special thanks to mask makers Anne Gardner, Leslie McLaughlin, Misha Be, Pallas Bane, Lesley Kash, Scott Rohrbach, Peggy Lee, Cindy Cutright, Celestine Ranney-Howes, Rosalyn Alleman, Amy Meyers, Joyce Wineland, Oli Nash and many others who sewed, donated fabric, ironed and cut, picked up, dropped off and cheered on.

Top Stories of 2020

New Deal, DC Vegan Part Ways

After less than two and a half years, the New Deal Café and its food provider, DC Vegan (DCV), parted ways as of November 30. The two entities were not able to reach agreement on several issues concerning food service at the Café. As of December 1, the Café was closed temporarily until the board chooses a new food service vendor. The Café celebrated 25 years of existence in 2020. Pandemic-related restrictions posed difficulties and challenges for small businesses and restaurants across Greenbelt. The Café also had to close, then

partially reopen with outdoor-only service. This led to some of the disagreements between the Café and DCV, although the Café board said that some differences of opinion began before the pandemic and had been long-term issues. The board communicated to its members, volunteers, guests and the entire community that they “are committed to keeping the New Deal Café in business and continuing to serve the community,” adding that they have “survived and thrived through several changes in food contractors in our 25-year history.”

Top Stories of 2020

City Development Issues

Three major development proposals were discussed this year, these being: the redevelopment of Beltway Plaza into a mixed-use residential/retail community, a new Royal Farms store and the relocation of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) to a site on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). Beltway Plaza redevelopment has entered the Detailed Site Plan (DSP) stage for Phase One, which concerns the northern part of the site that borders Breezewood Drive. It calls for 750 multifamily units, a 92-room hotel and a 27,000 sq. ft. indoor recreation center, among other things. At this time, the county has not yet approved the DSP. With the receipt of the county’s acceptance package, the city’s planning staff will prepare a detailed staff report in response. The Royal Farms store would be located at the east end of the intersection of Capitol Drive and Greenbelt Road. The current DSP consists of 4,649 square feet for a food and beverage store, a Royal Farms gas station and a separate 4,368 square-foot commercial building (its use still undecided). While the Greenbelt City Council voted to oppose the DSP, the County Planning Board chose to approve it. The BEP proposal is for a 1 million square-foot Currency

From the Archives

Wishing You A Happy New Year

This holiday poem was originally published in the January 2, 1969 issue of the Greenbelt News Review
(to be sung to the tune of “There is Nothing Like a Dame”)
It has been a year of action
With a lot of work to do
Riot troops were in the Armory
And the News-Review ball, too
We got higher income taxes
At the polls we stood in line
Be glad it’s over –
It’s 1969!

Wishing you a happy year
May your troubles be few
Peace and joy will both be here
And your wishes may all come true.

We got bonds for rapid transit
Got a charter on its way
We have missed the constitution
(but will try again some day)

We had lawsuits and rezonings
Petty squabbles quite a lot
Things might be better –
Or else, they might not!

Wishing you a happy year
Better than those past
Wishing you, Greenbelt dear
That your fortunes will improve at last.

Our prices all got higher
Our dollars – less and less
Our cities were on fire
And the world still in a mess

Our students wrecked the campus
Our spacemen passed the moon
What do we need?
Some peace real soon!

Wishing you a happy year
Nineteen Sixty-Nine
Wishing peace on earth were here
Wishing happiness once more would shine

Nothing thrills like peace
Stomachs fill like peace
Nothing beams like peace
Fills men’s dreams like peace
Nothing more would all of us please
This year one thing should increase
Just a little bit, just a piece
– of peace!

www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/GNR19690102.pdf




Bill Norwood carols in Roosevelt Center.

PHOTO COURTESY BILL NORWOOD

Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture. If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.





PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, January 7, 2021

A. GHI Special Open Session – starts at 7:00 p.m. (open to members and visitors)

- Approve Motion to Hold an Executive Session meeting on January 7, 2021

B. GHI Executive Session – starts after the GHI Special Open Session Meeting adjourns (closed to members and visitors)

- Approve Minutes of Executive Session Meeting held on December 3, 2020
- Contract for Tub-Reglazing – 1st reading
- Member Financial Matters
- Member Complaint Matters

C. GDC Regular Open Session Meeting – begins at 7:45 p.m. (open to members and visitors)

- Approve Minutes of Open Session Meeting Held on November 19, 2020
- Approve Minutes of Open Session Meeting Held on December 3, 2020
- Review GHI/GDC Relationship Task Force Charter and the Task Force Recommendation for a GDC Bylaws Review

D. GHI Regular Open Session – begins after the GDC Open Session Meeting adjourns (open to members and visitors)


- Announcement of Executive Session Meeting Held on January 7, 2021
- Announcement of Informal Hearing Held in an Executive Session Meeting on December 28, 2020
- Approval of Addendum for Trust Ownership and Trustee’s Affidavit re: a GHI Unit
- Approve Minutes of Special Open Session Meeting Held on December 3, 2020
- Approve Minutes of Regular Open Session Meeting Held on December 3, 2020
- Fee Deferral Plan for Members Financially Affected by COVID-19
- Establish Board Sub-committee to Finalize Draft of a Reasonable Accommodation Policy
- Consider Whether to Charge Fees for Processing GHI Permit Requests
- Consider GHI’s Response to WMATA’s Proposed Cuts

Contact information for attending the Open Session Meetings, which will be held via a Zoom electronic platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is as follows:

Time: Jan 7, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86485998330?pwd=bEN6TTZObGZTNXJHWHJrL3hSY0JlZz09>

Meeting ID: 864 8599 8330
Passcode: 526372
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,86485998330#,,,,*526372# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
Meeting ID: 864 8599 8330
Passcode: 526372
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kkOOJIVzy>



To request a sign language interpreter for a board meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Regular Board meetings are open to Members

For more information, visit our website: www.ghi.coop

KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR BY BECOMING A MEMBER AT YOUR COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION!

Happy New Year!

FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF



Greenbelt FCU
112 Centerway, Roosevelt Center
301-474-5900
www.greenbeltfcu.com



PANDEMIC continued from page 1

I’ve done for years, but now I have several other family members working here too. The adjustment was a bit rough, but we are continuing. My preferred office is my kitchen table and we have the Christmas tree there too this year, as well as all of our meals. I thought such multi-purpose use of space was over when we became empty-nesters but now our nest is partially full again, and our space has many uses.

Exercise

Greenbelters missed ways to exercise this year – the impromptu basketball games, kids playing together on a playground and working out at the Fitness Center. Walking was almost all that was left to us as a way to exercise but we walked tentatively, warily eyeing and avoiding other walkers and runners, even after the mandate to wear masks outdoors. We competed for the few slots for swimming at the pool, longing for 45 minutes of concentrating on just our bodies and the water, putting away the anxieties for a too-short time.



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

Life in the pandemic is a time for a lot of walking and trying to find small joys. Here, a peaceful stream flows near McDonald Baseball Field.

Around the Firepit

Firepits! What used to be a patio vanity purchase is now the hottest ticket to coronavirus-safe neighborhood gathering. Winter is coming, but we can still visit actual humans outside while burning food on sticks. If you don’t

already have an underemployed faux-granite Wayfair patio centerpiece, no worries, just get something that can (safely!) hold burning wood, put it out front and you’re good to go. If you light it, they will come.

Gift lists got easier, too: Pokers, tongs, fatwood, telescoping marshmallow sticks, pie irons, bellows, welding gloves. Yes, really. We weren’t all Boy Scouts.

The Greenbelt News Review invites Greenbelters to share stories (50 to 100 words) of their own about how the pandemic affected their daily lives. Send contributions to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

CITY continued from page 1

In May, council approved the budget for the new fiscal year based upon staff’s pre-pandemic estimates of costs and revenues. There was too much uncertainty and the pandemic hit too late to incorporate its impacts into the budget. At the same time council approved Ard’s recommendations to freeze most hiring, defund non-essential travel and training, defer salary increases and projects

not funded by grants. At year’s end, city revenues had actually increased although the likelihood of large retroactive decreases in commercial property tax assessments still remains. The adopted budget did not fund several significant efforts and, other than the recreation department, the city has not yet studied the impact of the pandemic on its expenditures.

CO-OP continued from page 1

completion. Vision became reality on December 16 when Pepco connected the new roof’s solar array to the store’s power system. The project was funded by a \$375K state grant and a similar amount in donations and loans from individual members. Projected savings include elimination of roof repairs and an estimated 30 percent offset in electricity costs as improved roof insulation reduces heating and cooling demand. Loans to members are repaid from electricity savings, with some left annually to help with operational costs. Payoff is

anticipated around 2031. With a projected lifetime of 25-plus years, the array will continue to benefit the Co-op into the mid-2040s and beyond.



Business

The News Review invites Greenbelt businesses to submit brief announcements for the business column. Tell us about events such as new employees, anniversaries, awards won, new programs, and other newsworthy items. Send brief (40-50 words) items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Top Stories of 2020

Business Closings in 2020

Many Greenbelt businesses closed in 2020, some due to the severe financial strain of trying to stay open during a pandemic when most potential customers were staying home and when, at least for the first part of the pandemic, only the most essential businesses were permitted to be open.

In Beltway Plaza at least two stores closed in 2020: the Luv’n Time clothing and novelty adult shop and Books-A-Million bookstore. Both were forced to shut down because of the pandemic during the spring and summer of 2020. Luv’n Time had been in business for 35 years and Books-A-Million, which was the last remaining bookstore in Greenbelt, had been in business for nearly 25 years.

Greenway Center saw its share of closings, some from the pandemic, and others from a combination of other factors and the vicissitudes of the retail sales market. The Chinese restaurant, Hunan Treasure, closed before March and Modell’s sporting goods store closed at the beginning of March. As of the end

of 2020 there are five vacancies at Greenway Center, with three new prospects in negotiations to replace them. Though businesses like Safeway and various medical offices have done well, the majority of other tenants, such as Ross, Party City and PetSmart, have had to make serious adjustments to accommodate pandemic restrictions.

The City of Greenbelt Economic Development Office (EDO), headed by Charise Liggins, produced and distributed many resources to help local business owners cope with the many challenges of keeping a business afloat during the pandemic. For example, the EDO put together a webpage with information for entrepreneurs and business owners such as business recovery and reopening resources, official guidelines from local government with relevance for business, information and guidance concerning managing a business during the pandemic. This information is available at greenbeltmd.gov/business/coronavirus-resources-for-businesses.

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery
December 17, 3:47 p.m., 5912 Cherrywood Terrace. Two young men ran up to another man in the rear parking lot of Beltway Plaza and demanded his phone, wallet and sweater. They then fled on foot.
December 18, 5:34 a.m., 7600 block Hanover Parkway. Four men approached a man, demanded his wallet and punched his head, which left him unconscious. His hat was also taken. The injured man was transported to a local hospital for treatment.
December 18, 10:54 a.m., 9128 Edmonston Court. Residents were in their apartment when someone they know, who was also in the apartment, produced a handgun and announced a robbery. He got a wallet, money and several cell phones before he fled on foot. The investigation is ongoing.
December 22, 7:30 p.m., 6100 Breezewood Drive. Officers responded to a local hospital after a report of a man who walked in suffering a gunshot wound. He said he was walking in the area of 6100 Breezewood Drive when he was approached by four men. They announced a robbery, at which time the man attempted to flee on foot. One of them then shot him in the leg with what he described as a handgun. The injured man was taken to the hospital by a relative for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.
December 22, 7:43 p.m., 6118 Breezewood Court. Three men approached a food delivery person getting out of his vehicle and one of them asked him to make change. This person then knocked the driver to the ground and all three men began punching him. After they took the man's wallet and food, they fled on foot. The delivery man declined treatment for minor injuries.

Assault
December 19, 7:19 p.m., 6230 Springhill Drive. Four youths were pushed into a pond by two people who approached them as they were playing in the area. The two then left the area in a vehicle described as a white van with tinted windows. The youths were not injured.

Theft
December 17, 3:33 p.m., 6000 Greenbelt Road. A woman's wallet was taken while at Z Burger. A credit card in it was later used to make several unauthorized purchases.
December 17, 6 p.m., 5912 Cherrywood Terrace. A package was taken from the front stoop of a residence.
December 23, 2:11 p.m., 5999 Springhill Drive. A package was taken from the front stoop of a residence on December 16.
Disorderly Conduct
December 21, 10:37 p.m., 8000 block Greenbelt Station Parkway. A 22-year-old non-resident was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct by officers who responded to a report of a person being disorderly in the parking garage. The man was released on citation pending trial.
Trespass
December 20, 9:10 p.m., 6104 Breezewood Court. An 18-year-old resident was arrested and charged with trespassing after he was found inside a vacant apartment. He was released on citation pending trial.
Burglary
December 22, 8:54 p.m., 6411 Ivy Lane. A 25-year-old non-resident was arrested and charged with fourth degree burglary after security officers saw him break into a vacant office. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.
Vehicle Crime
Three stolen vehicles were recovered. A 2012 Honda Accord reported stolen October 30 from the 100 block Westway was recovered December 18 by D.C. Metropolitan Police near Minnesota Avenue and Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue N.E.
A 2005 Honda Pilot, reported stolen December 9 from 6214 Breezewood Court was recovered December 22 by D.C. Metropolitan Police in the 1000 block 13th Street N.W.
A 2018 Mitsubishi Mirage reported stolen December 3 near 7911 Mandan Road was not stolen but was repossessed.
Rear tag, Maryland 7CJ472 was taken in the 7200 block Mandan Road and Maryland rear tag 1ED4917 was taken from 9110 Springhill Lane.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.
Call 1-866-411-TIPS.
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**CHALK DUST:
A TEACHER'S TALE**
An anecdotal memoir by William Manion who taught in PGCPs from 1968-2016 (38 years at ERHS in Greenbelt) Ebook and Paperback available on Amazon.

Found: Somebody's Lost Donkey Christmas Ornament

by Pat Holobaugh

This time last year someone lost this treasured ornament. Last spring, I found it sticking out of the mulch on my vegetable garden. After cleaning it up I decided that it is a donkey. Its eyes are no longer shiny, its blanket is frayed and its hanging strings are broken. Its crochet is still intact. It is four inches from nose to tail.
How did it come into my garden? I decided to write a little book for my grandchildren to tell the donkey's story. I imagine that the donkey was forgotten on a Christmas tree when the family put away all their decorations. The discarded Christmas tree (with donkey) was trucked to the yard waste pile on Northway. The tree was chopped up, mixed with shredded fall leaves and piled high.
I do a lot of gardening and bring loads of leaf mulch from the Northway pile to my gardens. The ornament must have come home with me in a bucket



PHOTO BY PAT HOLOBAUGH

This little lost donkey was found in the mulch pile on Northway.

of mulch. Somehow the donkey avoided being chopped up and was buried under tons of mulch. This explains why it is flattened and a little raggedy.
If you recognize this ornament, send an email to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Greenbelt Police Corporal Scott Yankow received a **Class 1 Commendation** earlier this year from Police Chief Richard Bowers for his performance during a call for a suicidal subject who was armed with a weapon. Yankow was able to take the person into custody to receive the help he needed without any incident to the other officers or general public. Congratulations and thank you for your service Officer Yankow.



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Happy Holidays!

As we near the end of an unexpected year, I am reflecting on how we view 'home.' It's a place we cherish and call our own. Whether you are able to spend time with your family this holiday season or not, I hope that you, too, are rediscovering the meaning of home and the significance it holds for you.

Cheers to new beginnings!

Kim Kash

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My Perspective

Say Bye to 2020, Hi to 2021
With a Simple First Step

by Frank DeBernardo

How can the Greenbelt community bring some closure to the struggles of 2020 and start off 2021 with a greater sense of renewed hope and neighborly spirit? Here's a simple proposal. At midnight on New Year's Eve, Greenbelters can step outside their doors or on their balconies and do one of the following: applaud, bang a pot, beat a drum, blow a party horn, cheer, dance, hold up a sign with a positive message, laugh, play an instrument, ring a bell, sing, light a candle, sound a chime, twirl a noisemaker, wave a favorite flag or banner, wear a funny hat or even just wave to the neighbors and wish each other a happy new year.

Join with people across the city in a festive gesture to signal the end of a rough year and express hope for the new one. This year, let's all do it together as one community of Greenbelt. This commemoration is something everyone can do because everyone can do it in their own unique way.

2020 was a tough year for many people in our community and around the globe. The coronavirus pandemic brought on illness, death, suffering, fear and social restrictions. In its wake it has brought economic decline, unemployment, hunger, homelessness and isolation. Racial injustices caused the deaths of many individuals, revealed festering inequalities, divided communities and threatened our social fabric. Lies, misinformation and fear-mongering poisoned our civic discourse to an extent never seen before.

The celebration of a new year offers a chance to turn a corner and set us on a new course with optimism and renewed commitment to build up our community and our world. Of course, practically speaking, nothing will be much different on January 1 than it was on December 31 but 2021 will be a better year than 2020 only if we make it a better one.

A community ritual such as this one can bolster a spirit of renewed hope in ourselves and in each other, paving the way for a better year to come. We can start off on the right foot by coming together in a simple, safe, socially distant way from the very first minute of the new year. We can help make the world in 2021 a better place right from the beginning and right from our front doorstep.

This kind of ritual can also help unite the geographically separated neighborhoods of our city since all citizens will be united in this simple action at the same exact time. We don't need to gather together physically to celebrate, which would be unhealthy to do this year, but we can still be united by being

intentional and joyous in welcoming the new year.

A lot of people will be at home this New Year's Eve, so a small community gesture can help to make this holiday a little more memorable. Instead of lamenting that we can't be together with family and friends in our traditional celebrations, let's make this year special by doing something different and welcoming the new year together as a city-wide community.

This invitation for a communal ritual to ring out the old and welcome the new is offered by Connecting Across Greenbelt, a local grassroots movement to build relationships across our city's diverse neighborhoods, and RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness), a local initiative to help unite the citizens of Greenbelt. Connecting Across Greenbelt, initiated in 2020 by Lois Rosado and Tom Adams, has been conducting events, mostly virtual, to help people from the various neighborhoods of Greenbelt get to know one another by sharing common concerns and working for a more just and equal community. The group has already sponsored a socially distant drumming circle, a scavenger hunt to discover unique locations in each of the city's neighborhoods, a mental health awareness discussion and a celebration of diverse holiday foods and traditions.

RUAK was started by Robert Goldberg-Strassler to spread kindness and build community in our city. RUAK sponsored the HUG (Help Unite Greenbelt) Walk, and it has partnered with Connecting Across Greenbelt to organize the various activities described above.

So, this New Year's Eve, take a moment to start off 2021 with your neighbors. Step outside. Breathe the fresh night air. Do one of the actions from the list above – or make up one of your own. (The Hokey Pokey is a personal New Year's tradition from my childhood.) These simple steps can help embolden the spirit of hope and renewal in yourself, your neighbors and the wonderful, beautiful, diverse community of Greenbelt.

Frank DeBernardo is a member of the Connecting Across Greenbelt coordinating committee.



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Joe McNeal Retires After 31
Years of Service to the City

After 31 years of service to the community, Greenbelt Recreation Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations Joe McNeal is retiring on December 31. Upon earning a Bachelor of Recreation Administration degree from the University of Maryland, McNeal began his Greenbelt career as a recreation coordinator on September 11, 1989. He held many positions during his tenure, including Community Center supervisor and two separate periods as acting recreation director. During his career, McNeal continued his education in the field through the National Recreation and Park Association, maintaining professional certifications as a parks and recreation professional and an aquatics facility operator.

McNeal mirrored the City of Greenbelt's dedication to recreation and parks through his management of multiple department initiatives, including the development of the Greenbelt Skate Park, the Community Center Window Restoration project, the replacement of the 50-year-old Youth Center gymnasium floor, the court resurfacing and new light installation at Braden Field Tennis Courts and numerous projects at the Aquatic & Fitness Center, including the new translucent roof.

McNeal was an active member of the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association and the Maryland Municipal League (MML), sharing his commitment to parks and recreation and promoting the field throughout the state. He was a great representative of the City of Greenbelt, serving as a board member and president of the MML Parks and Recreation Department for six years, advocating for parks and recreation through legislation.



Joe McNeal sits at his desk early in his career.



Joe McNeal

When he isn't traveling the world, McNeal plans to spend his retirement at his new home in Delaware.



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Estate Sale GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.

Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

Cape Cod SFH 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced back yard, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w/ front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen, full bath, pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.

Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With S/S appliances. \$149,900

Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. A/C system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Priced to sell at \$124,900

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Christmas Morning. What's New?

Gramma Mary Lou receives a large birdhouse. Or is it? Designed and constructed in cardboard by grandson Brant and then wrapped by his sister Meredith, the birdhouse contained a pair of socks for Gramma. Meredith, who discovered this year's "new" on YouTube, also constructed a chair.

Not to be outdone by his kids, Dad Til later explained with glee, "I'm thinking I could do this!" He designed and constructed the green helicopter. Inside was a very small box containing a delicate gold necklace for wife Carolyn.



The "cargo" on this helicopter was a necklace given by a husband to his wife.



Inside this birdhouse is the real gift from Mary Lou Williamson's family.

- Photos by Til Jolly

A Holiday Cheer and Thanks To Greenbelt's Boston Market

The Greenbelt Citizens for Public Safety (GCPS) provided dinner to police officers on Christmas Day. As most stores were closed, Pricilla Burgess, manager of Boston Market, and her crew whipped up a holiday menu of baked chicken, ham, mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, sweet potatoes, vegetables and gravy that was enjoyed by all who worked the evening shift at the Police Station. GCPS would like to thank Burgess and her crew for cooking a tasty meal for the Greenbelt Police Department evening shift.

Earlier in the day, the GCPS elves stopped by the Police and Fire Stations with treats for those working earlier.



Claudia Jones (left) and Robert Snyder (far right) are the Christmas elves, pictured here with officers Dylan Davis and Michael Parsley of the Greenbelt Police Department.

PHOTO BY KATHY LEGENDRE

Top Stories of 2020

Farmers Market Beats Odds

Although the pandemic was accelerating, mid-May saw the on-schedule opening of the Greenbelt Farmers Market (GFM). Two weeks earlier, without guidance from county and state authorities, opening on time (or at all) wasn't a certainty. But the county held an informative Zoom meeting that provided a wide-angle view just in time for GFM to hop to it and plan. With larger gaps between vendors, one-way circulation, hand sanitizer and masks obligatory, Market Master Frances Ippoliti, the market board, volunteers and the Greenbelt Community Emergency Response team created a shopping space that felt safe to customers and protected all. Shoppers came out not just for fresh food but also to enjoy, despite the limitations, one of the very few in-person events of the summer.



Nelson and his Pleitez crew stand proudly masked. Pleitez, like other vendors, created a safe purchasing environment for both their workers and customers - as well as having a wonderful selection.

PHOTO BY TERRY KUCERA

Although attendance was down, vendors reported strong sales because almost every shopper was on a mission to purchase. Despite occasional frustrations with the rules, the market's atmosphere, though more constrained than usual, remained welcoming and congenial. Donations for facemasks provided to the market by the Greenbelt

Mask Makers raised over \$2,000 in Co-op gift cards distributed by the Ladies of Charity of St. Hugh of Grenoble food pantry.

With additional costs for sanitizer, fencing and tape plus loss of income from vendor fees and sponsors, the year was a financial loss to the market rather than its usual just-better-than-breakeven

performance, but its carefully shepherded reserves will be sufficient to ramp up for 2021.

As the closing bell rang for the last market of the season, vendors, volunteers and last-minute shoppers joined in applause and cheers to commemorate the successful passing of the most unlikely market season yet.


YES, IT'S TRUE!

Hundreds of Greenbelt families are doing without a telephone today because they think they can't afford one. Look at the rates quoted below and see if you couldn't afford to be among the "haves" instead of the "have nots". Here they are.

You Can Have A Telephone In Greenbelt For Less Than 6c A Day

Individual Flat Rate Service	— \$2.75 per mo.
2-Party Flat Rate Service	— 2.25 per mo.
4-Party Flat Rate Service	— 1.75 per mo.
Service Connection Charge	\$1.50

To order your telephone, see or call
Mr. R. M. Richter Jr., telephone manager, today!



The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City
Central Avenue, Berwyn — Greenbelt 2411

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A camellia midnight lover in the snow

PHOTO BY RACHEL CHANNON